

Silene Oliveriana

From the literature... 2025-03-05

Cyprus 2018

[Some remarks on Silene oliveriana Otth \(Caryophyllaceae\), 2018](#) by Christodoulos Makris & Ralf Hand [D:\flowers\docs\flora\genus\silene\colorata vs oliveriana 2018.pdf]

Bulletin de la Société botanique de France [...] T. 81

[PDF163]

Thiébaud J. 1934

Silene Oliveriana Otth. [Google Translation:] — After the description of this species, Boissier declares it very close to *S. bipartita* from which it differs by the acute leaves and the white petals with narrower blades. Outbidding, Post makes it an *S. bipartita* var. *Oliveriana* Post. However, this is again a connection which cannot withstand on-site examination. A difference of primordial order separates them as it separates *S. damascena* from *S. siderophila*. While *S. bipartita* and *S. damascena* are diurnal species, with large pink or red flowers, *S. Oliveriana* and *S. siderophila* are nocturnal species, whose flowers wither at the first rays of the sun and which still have this common character to have pale petals, livid underneath, all characteristics which bring them closer to *S. nocturna*, the latter remaining however very distinct by its almost zero carpophore, while that of *S. siderophila* and *S. Oliveriana* reaches or almost the length of the capsule. If a connection must be made, it is between *S. Oliveriana* and *S. siderophila*, the first constituting a clearly defined species, the second of which is only a variety with paler flowers, the blade of which is a little wider.

Silène Oliveriana Otth. — Après la description de cette espèce, Boissier la déclare très voisine de *S. bipartita* dont elle différerait par les feuilles aiguës et les pétales blancs à lame plus étroite. Surenchérissant, Post en fait un *S. bipartita* var. *Oliveriana* Post. Or, c'est là encore un rapprochement qui ne peut résister à un examen sur place. Une différence d'ordre primordial les sépare comme elle sépare *S. damascena* de *S. siderophila*. Tandis que *S. bipartita* et *S. damascena* sont des espèces diurnes, à grandes fleurs roses ou rouges, *S. Oliveriana* et *S. siderophila* sont des espèces nocturnes, dont les fleurs se flétrissent aux premiers rayons du soleil et qui présentent encore ce caractère commun d'avoir des pétales pâles, livides en dessous, tous caractères qui les rapprochent de *S. nocturna*, celui-ci restant toutefois bien distinct par son carpophore presque nul, alors que celui de *S. siderophila* et *S. Oliveriana* atteint ou peu s'en faut la longueur de la capsule.

Si un rapprochement doit être fait, c'est entre *S. Oliveriana* et *S. siderophila*, la première constituant une espèce bien tranchée dont la seconde n'est qu'une variété à fleurs plus pâles, dont le limbe est un peu plus élargi.

1868 Monographie der Gattung Silene by Paul Rohrbach.djvu

[D:\flowers\docs\flora\genus\silene\1868 Monographie der Gattung Silene by Paul Rohrbach.djvu]

ssp colorata

Lower leaves obtuse; calyx clothed with appressed hairs more or less long, sometimes downy at the striae, with ovate teeth; pink petals, claws far out, wedge-oblong lobes rarely linear-oblong, oblong appendages obtuse or pointed.

ssp oliveriana

Stems appressed or pubescent; leaves all acute, linear or lanceolate; linear bracts; calyx clothed with short recurved hairs at the striae, between the striae scabrous, with oblong teeth; white petals, slightly protruding claws, linear lobes, obtuse ovate appendages.

ssp colorata

Folia inferiora obtusa; calyx pilis adpressis plus minus longis vestitus, ad strias interdum lanuginosus, dentibus ovatis; petala rosea, unguibus longe exsertis, lobis cuneato-oblongis raro lineari-oblongis, appendicibus oblongis obtusis acutisve.

ssp oliveriana

Caulis adpressus vel patule pubescens; folia omnia acuta linearia vel lanceolata; bracteae lineares; calyx ad strias pilis brevibus recurvis vestitus, inter strias scabridus, dentibus oblongis; petala alba, unguibus paullum exsertis, lobis linearibus, appendicibus ovatis obtusis.

Flora of Egypt 1999

27. *Silene colorata* Poir., Voy. Barb. 2: 163 (1789).

Syns. *Silene bipartita* Desf. var. *stenophylla* Boiss., Fl. Orient. 1: 597 (1867).

Silene colorata Poir. var. *stenophylla* (Boiss) Dinsm. in Post, Fl. Syr. Pal.

Sinai, ed. 2, 1: 178 (1932).

Annual herb 10-30 cm, hispid to appressed-hairy, not glandular; stems erect or decumbent, simple or branched from the base; leaves 2-8 x 0.2-1.2 cm; lower obovate, oblong-lanceolate to oblong-linear; upper narrowly-linear, smaller; flowers 1-1.5 cm, in small monochasial cymes; pedicel 1-8 mm; calyx 1-2 cm, cylindrical, ovoid in fruit, pubescent; teeth 1.5-4.5 mm, ciliate; petals pink to white, 2-partite into oblong-linear lobes; capsule 1-2 times as long as the carpophore, ovoid; seeds 1-1.2 mm, ear-shaped, deeply grooved on the dorsal side, with 2 undulate margins, almost smooth. Two varieties occur in Egypt -

var. *colorata*:

Lower leaves obovate, obtuse, the upper oblong-linear; calyx-teeth 2-4.5 mm, obtuse; petal limb pink; capsule 1-2 times as long as the carpophore.

N, M, D, S; sandy soils and wadi beds. Mediterranean region, Sinai.

var. *oliveriana*: (Otth) Musch1., Man. Fl. Egypt 1: 338 (1912).

Syns. *Silene oliveriana* Otth in DC., Prodr. 1: 373 (1824).

Silene colorata Poir. subsp. *oliveriana* (Otth) Rohrb., Mon. Sil. 116 (1868). Lower leaves oblong-linear, the upper narrow-linear, acute; calyx-teeth 1.5-2 mm, acute; petal limb whitish; capsule equalling or shorter than the carpophore.

M, De, S; sandy soils and desert wadis. Mediterranean region, Sinai, Arabia.

Syria & Palestine, 1932, Post

29. *S. Oliveriana* Otth (in DC. (1824); subsp. of *S. sericea* All (1785); *S. col.* Poir. subsp. *Oliv.* Rohrb. (1868); *S. bipart.* Desf. var. *Oliv.* Post, 1896) (.) Oliver's C. (i.597; M. 338).—Leaves all lanceolate or linear, acute, finely tubercled, often glabrescent. Calyx green-lined, with lanceolate, acute teeth. Limb white, green beneath, bipartite into narrow, linear-spatulate lobes. Lobes of crown ovate, obtuse or retuse. Capsule ovate, somewhat longer than carpophore.

28. *S. colorata* Poir. (1789; subsp. of *S. sericea* All. (1785); *S. bipartita* Desf. 1798-1900) Cloven-petaled C.; 'eyn-ul-bint (AS) (.) (i. 597; H.i. 167; M. 337; Low, i.335).—2 to .4, appressed-pubescent; stems ascending or procumbent at base, rarely erect, simple or dichotomous. Leaves obovate to oblong-linear; bracts small, oblong-lanceolate, unequal. Peduncles shorter than .02 long calyx. Calyx red-nerved, obconical-cylindrical from umbilicate base, in fruit club-shaped, teeth oblong, obtuse. Limb pink, bifid into obovate or linear lobes; capsule ovate, once and a half to twice as long as carpophore.

b. *decumbens*: (Biv.) Rohrb (1868; *S. decumbens* Biv. (1806-7); *S. bip.* var. *eriocaulon* Boiss. 1867).—Everywhere velvety-canescens with short hair—Leb. Beirut, Tyre to Nabatiyyah (maritime sands); Pal. Wadi-Shuayb (PH), Jericho, Jarash (N. 4223, 4250), Haifa (D).

c. *stenophylla*: (Boiss.) Dinsm. (1931).—Leaves narrowly oblong or linear; sometimes 1-flowered.—Pal. Khan-Hatrur (D), uz-Zib (N. 4242), Sarona (Bn. n. 178); ut-Tih: ur-Ramlah; Sinai: Wadi-Barah (PH).

d. *longipes*: (Post) Dinsm. (1931).—Capsule shorter than carpophore.—Common. Pal. Tall-Hammam, Ramah to Nebo (PH), Latrun, Tiberias (N. 4231, 4222), Irbid, Madaba, Jericho, Tabighah, Jerusalem, Jaffa (D).

Contributions à la connaissance de la flore du nord-ouest de l'Afrique

[D:\flowers\books\botany\flora\afrika (mediterranean)\1897 - Contributions à la connaissance de la flore du nord-ouest de l'Afrique et plus spécialement de la Tunisie - Murbeck - pt 1.pdf]

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It is distinguished from the typical *S. colorata* mainly by its narrowly linear or linear-lanceolate leaves and by its petals with broader and much shorter scales. - In the stations where I encountered this plant, the flowers are as often white as pink.

Elle se distingue du *S. colorata* type surtout par ses feuilles étroitement linéaires ou linéaires-lancéolées et par ses pétales à écailles plus larges et beaucoup plus courtes. - Dans les stations, où j'ai rencontré cette plante, les fleurs sont aussi souvent blanches que roses.

1902 Flore analytique et synoptique de l'Algerie et de la Tunisie

[D:\flowers\books\botany\flora\afrika (mediterranean)\1902 Flore analytique et synoptique de l'Algerie et de la Tunisie by Jules Aime Battandier.pdf]
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Smaller capsule and seeds, large ornamental flowers. Alg. Tune. -- *S. colorata* POIRET.

(b) lasiocalyx, winged ribs, very hairy, woolly.

(c) pteropleura, winged ribs, pubescent.

(d) amphorina, very small capsules 8 mm, including thecaphora. East.

(e) *Oliveriana*, narrow leaves, short coronule. Tune.

Capsule et graines plus petites, grandes fleurs ornementales. Alg. Tun. -- *S. colorata* POIRET.

(b) lasiocalyx, côtes ailées, très velues, laineuses.

(c) pteropleura, côtes ailées, pubescentes.

(d) amphorina, capsules très petites 8 mm, thécaphore compris. Est.

(e) *Oliveriana*, feuilles étroites, coronule courte. Tun.

1912 - A manual flora of Egypt by Reinhold Conrad Muschler

volume 1 needed

Flore de l'Afrique du Nord

[Maire-FAN10.pdf, Caryophyllaceae_Maire-FAN.pdf]

Petals with linear divisions; coronule scales oval, obtuse, short (2 mm). Puberulent calyx between the ribs. White or pink corolla. Seeds with slightly papillose faces.

type -

wedge-shaped or linear, obtuse divisions

ligular squamules 2, white, oval or oblong, obtuse or \pm acute, or 1 deeply bifid, often \pm coherent in tubular coronule, 2-3 mm long

usually purpurin or pink, sometimes greenish yellow or orange externally, very rarely white, 7-13 mm long

very finely striated radially at high magnification, sometimes a little papillose on the faces

Pétales à divisions linéaires; squamules de la coronule ovales, obtuses, courtes (2 mm). Calice pubérulent entre les côtes. Corolle blanche ou rose. Graines à faces un peu papilleuses.

type -

divisions cunéiformes ou linéaires, obtuses

squamules ligulaires 2, blanches, ovales ou oblongues, obtuses ou \pm aiguës, ou 1 profondément bifide, souvent \pm cohérentes en coronule tubulaire, 2-3 mm long

ordinairement purpurin ou rose, parfois jaune verdâtre ou orangés extérieurement, très rarement blanc, 7-13 mm long

très finement striées radialement à un fort grossissement, parfois un peu papilleuses sur les faces

boissier

Oliveriana (Othth in DC. Prodr. I, p. 373) [Google Translation:] appressed and shortly pubescent, stems erect or ascending from a dichotomous base and subdivergently branched, lanceolate or linear leaves all acute under slowly tuberculate often glabrescent, clustered flowers, unequal bracts, calyx peduncles shorter, green-lined calyx appressed and shortly bristly from the base umbilical cylindrical-clavate with sharp lanceolate teeth, white plate under the green in lacinia narrowly linear-spathulate almost to the bipartite base, crown ovate lacini obtuse or blunt, capsule ovate carpophore longer. Oh
Hab. in the rocky deserts of Arabia (Boiss!), Palestine to Jerusalem and in the descent to Jericho (Boiss!), between El Arych and Gaza (Ky!), Syria, to Damascus and Sidon (Gaill!), to Aleppo (Ky exs. 17! and Haussk!), on Mount Nur in Cilicia (Ky Suppl. 23!), in Mesopotamia (Oliv! Auch. exs. 476!).
Fl. spring
The seeds are very similar to *S. bipartite*, it is distinguished by sharp leaves, narrower white petals, crown shape?

Oliveriana (Othth in DC. Prodr. I, p. 373) adpresse et breviter pubescens, caulibus erectis vel ascendentibus a basi dichotome et subdivaricatis ramosis, foliis lanceolatis vel linearibus omnibus acutis sub lente tuberculatis saepe glabrescentibus, floribus racemosis, bracteis inaequalibus, pedunculis calyce brevioribus, calyce viridi-lineato adpresse et breviter hirsuto e basi umbilicata cylindrico-clavato dentibus lanceolatis acutiusculis, lamina alba subtus virenti in lacinias anguste lineari-spathulatas fere ad basin bipartita, coronae laciniis ovatis obtusis vel retusis, capsula ovata carpophoro sublongiore. O.

Hab. in desertis Arabiae petreae (Boiss!), Palaestina ad Hierosolymam et in descensu ad Jericho (Boiss!), inter El Arych et Gaza (Ky!), Syria, ad Damascus et Sidonem (Gaill!), ad Aleppo (Ky exs. 17! et Haussk!), in Ciliciae monte Nur (Ky Suppl. 23!), in Mesopotamia (Oliv! Auch. exs. 476!). Fl. vere.

Seminibus valde affinis *S. bipartitae*, an sat distincta foliis acutis, petalorum alborum laciniis angustioribus, coronae forma?

Iraq Notes

[silene-IRAQNOTES3.pdf]

...upright annual with pale pink flowers opening in the evening and then fragrant, corolla scales white, calyx green (5) with 10 reddish veins... cream or purplish... pale pink, calyx with red stripes... pinkish and white... corolla cream, the limb pale pink inside, claw hardly longer than calyx, opens only in evening, strong musky odour... corolla pale pink fading in the heat of the day, calyx red veined... light purple or blue...
...Ravano in Archivio Bot. 13, 261 (1937) and 15, 189 (1939) deals with the variation in *S. colorata* Poir. On p. 215 (1939) he treats *S. oliveriana* as a variety of *S. colorata*. As the distribution of *S. oliveriana* is more limited than that of *S. colorata* s.l. subspecies seems a more suitable rank. The narrower leaves and the carpophore about as long as the capsule are the distinguishing features of this subspecies (see Burt et Lewis in Kew Bull. 343 1952).